

## Calendar No. 544

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 1829**

To reauthorize programs under the Missing Children's Assistance Act.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 19, 2007

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

DECEMBER 13, 2007

Reported by Mr. LEAHY, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through]

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**A BILL**

To reauthorize programs under the Missing Children's Assistance Act.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the "Protect our Children  
5       First Act of 2007".

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO FINDINGS.**

2 Section 402 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act  
3 (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended to read as follows:

4 **"SEC. 402. FINDINGS.**

5 "Congress finds that—

6 "(1) each year thousands of children are ab-  
7 ducted or removed from the control of a parent hav-  
8 ing legal custody without such parent's consent,  
9 under circumstances which immediately place the  
10 child in grave danger;

11 "(2) many missing children are at great risk of  
12 both physical harm and sexual exploitation;

13 "(3) in many cases, parents and local law en-  
14 forcement officials have neither the resources nor  
15 the expertise to mount expanded search efforts;

16 "(4) abducted children are frequently moved  
17 from one locality to another, requiring the coopera-  
18 tion and coordination of local, State, and Federal  
19 law enforcement efforts;

20 "(5) growing numbers of children are the vic-  
21 tims of child sexual exploitation, increasingly involv-  
22 ing the use of new technology to access the Internet;

23 "(6) children may be displaced from their par-  
24 ents or legal guardians as a result of national disas-  
25 ters such as hurricanes and floods;

1           “(7) sex offenders pose a threat to children;  
2       and

3           “(8) the National Center for Missing and Ex-  
4       ploited Children—

5           “(A) serves as the national resource center  
6       and clearinghouse;

7           “(B) works in partnership with the De-  
8       partment of Justice, the Federal Bureau of In-  
9       vestigation, the United States Marshals Service,  
10      the Department of the Treasury, the Depart-  
11      ment of State, the Department of Homeland  
12      Security’s Bureau of Immigration and Customs  
13      Enforcement, the United States Secret Service,  
14      and many other agencies in the effort to find  
15      missing children and prevent child victimiza-  
16      tion; and

17          “(C) operates a national and increasingly  
18      worldwide network, linking the Center online  
19      with each of the missing children clearinghouses  
20      operated by the 50 States, the District of Co-  
21      lumbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as with Scot-  
22      land Yard in the United Kingdom, the Royal  
23      Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL head-  
24      quarters in Lyon, France, and others, which en-  
25      able the Center to transmit images and infor-

1           mation regarding missing and exploited children  
 2           to law enforcement across the United States  
 3           and around the world instantly.”.

4 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE**  
 5 **ADMINISTRATOR.**

6       ~~(a) IN GENERAL.~~—Section 404(b) of the Missing  
 7 Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)) is amend-  
 8 ed—

9           ~~(1) striking paragraph (3); and~~  
 10          ~~(2) redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph~~  
 11          ~~(3).~~

12       ~~(b) ANNUAL GRANT TO THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR~~  
 13 ~~MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.~~—Section 404(b)(1)  
 14 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
 15 5773(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

16           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
 17       annually make a grant to the Center, which shall be  
 18       used to—

19           “(A)(i) operate a national 24-hour toll-free  
 20       telephone line by which individuals may report  
 21       information regarding the location of any miss-  
 22       ing child, and request information pertaining to  
 23       procedures necessary to reunite such child with  
 24       such child’s legal custodian; and

1           “(ii) coordinate the operation of such tele-  
2           phone line with the operation of the national  
3           communications system referred to in part C of  
4           the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42  
5           U.S.C. 5714–11);

6           “(B) operate the official national resource  
7           center and information clearinghouse for miss-  
8           ing and exploited children;

9           “(C) provide to State and local govern-  
10          ments, public and private nonprofit agencies,  
11          and individuals, information regarding—

12               “(i) free or low-cost legal, restaurant,  
13               lodging, and transportation services that  
14               are available for the benefit of missing and  
15               exploited children and their families; and

16               “(ii) the existence and nature of pro-  
17               grams being carried out by Federal agen-  
18               cies to assist missing and exploited chil-  
19               dren and their families;

20          “(D) coordinate public and private pro-  
21          grams that locate, recover, or reunite missing  
22          children with their families;

23          “(E) disseminate, on a national basis, in-  
24          formation relating to innovative and model pro-

grams, services, and legislation that benefit missing and exploited children;

“(F) in cooperation with the Department of Justice and the Department of State and local law enforcement, develop and present an annual report on the actual number of children nationwide who are reported missing each year, the number of children who are victims of non-family abductions, the number of children who are the victims of parental kidnappings, and the number of children who are recovered each year;

“(G) provide technical assistance and training to law enforcement agencies, State and local governments, elements of the criminal justice system, public and private nonprofit agencies, and individuals in the prevention, investigation, prosecution, and treatment of cases involving missing and exploited children;

“(H) provide assistance to families and law enforcement agencies in locating and recovering missing and exploited children, both nationally and internationally;

“(I) provide analytical support and technical assistance to law enforcement agencies

1 through searching public records databases in  
2 locating and recovering missing and exploited  
3 children and helping to locate and identify ab-  
4 ductors;

5 “(J) provide direct on-site technical assist-  
6 ance and consultation to law enforcement agen-  
7 cies in child abduction and exploitation cases;

8 “(K) provide forensic technical assistance  
9 and consultation to law enforcement and other  
10 agencies in the identification of unidentified de-  
11 ceased children through facial reconstruction of  
12 skeletal remains and similar techniques;

13 “(L) track the incidence of attempted child  
14 abductions in order to identify links and pat-  
15 terns, and provide such information to law en-  
16 forcement agencies;

17 “(M) facilitate the deployment of the Na-  
18 tional Emergency Child Locator Center to as-  
19 sist in reuniting missing children with their  
20 families during periods of national disasters;

21 “(N) operate a cyber tipline to provide on-  
22 line users and electronic service providers an ef-  
23 fective means of reporting Internet-related child  
24 sexual exploitation in the areas of—

1 “(i) possession, manufacture and dis-  
2 tribution of child pornography;

3 “(ii) online enticement of children for  
4 sexual acts;

5 “(iii) child prostitution;

6 “(iv) sex tourism involving children;

7 “(v) extrafamilial child sexual moles-  
8 tation; and

9 “(vi) unsolicited obscene material sent  
10 to a child;

11 and subsequently to transmit such reports, in-  
12 cluding relevant images and information, to the  
13 appropriate international, Federal, State or  
14 local law enforcement agency for investigation;

15 “(O) work with law enforcement, electronic  
16 service providers, electronic payment service  
17 providers, and others on methods to reduce the  
18 distribution on the Internet of images and vid-  
19 eos of sexually exploited children;

20 “(P) operate the Child Victim Identifica-  
21 tion Program in order to assist the efforts of  
22 law enforcement agencies in identifying victims  
23 of child pornography and other sexual crimes;

24 “(Q) develop and disseminate programs  
25 and information for the general public to edu-



1 cate families and children regarding the preven-  
2 tion of child abduction and sexual exploitation;  
3 and

4 “(R) develop and disseminate programs  
5 and information to local communities, schools,  
6 public officials, nonprofit organizations, and  
7 youth-serving organizations to help parents and  
8 children use the Internet safely.”.

9 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 (a) ANNUAL GRANT TO THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
11 MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN.—Section 404(b)(2)  
12 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
13 5773(b)(2)) is amended by striking “\$20,000,000 for each  
14 of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008” and inserting  
15 “\$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as are  
16 necessary for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2013”.

17 (b) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a) of the Missing  
18 Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5777(a)) is amended  
19 by striking “2004 through 2008” and inserting “2008  
20 through 2013.”.

21 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.**

22 Title XXXVII of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42  
23 U.S.C. 5779 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
24 the following:

1   **“SEC. 3703. AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.**

2           “(a) IN GENERAL.—An Inspector General appointed  
3 under section 3 or 8G of the Inspector General Act of  
4 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) may authorize staff to assist the  
5 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children—

6           “(1) by conducting reviews of inactive case files  
7 to develop recommendations for further investiga-  
8 tions; and

9           “(2) by engaging in similar activities.

10          “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

11           “(1) PRIORITY.—An Inspector General may not  
12 permit staff to engage in activities described in sub-  
13 section (a) if such activities will interfere with the  
14 duties of the Inspector General under the Inspector  
15 General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

16           “(2) FUNDING.—No additional funds are au-  
17 thorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-  
18 tion.”.



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